

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 3272 – SB 3155

March 23, 2012

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (014233): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Requires the Department of Education (DOE) to establish, beginning in the 2012-2013 academic year, a four-year pilot program in the school system with the most schools operated by the state's Achievement School District (ASD) for the assessment of kindergarten students. Directs that the students entering kindergarten in these schools be tested using a standardized test or tests. Requires the test to measure the students' current education level so that instruction can be targeted to meet the needs of the students and eliminate disparities in learning backgrounds. Requires the Comptroller of the Treasury Office of Research and Education Accountability (OREA) to evaluate the program at the end of the four years to determine if the program should be expanded and continued. OREA shall report its findings and conclusions to the DOE and the Education Committees of the General Assembly by July 1, 2016.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Increase State Expenditures - \$22,000/FY12-13
\$22,000/FY13-14 and Subsequent Fiscal Years

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Increase State Expenditures - \$3,800/FY12-13
\$11,300/FY13-14
\$22,500/FY14-15
Exceeds \$22,500/FY15-16 and each Subsequent Year the
Program Exists

Assumptions applied to amendment:

- The DOE estimates that in FY12-13, there will be 150 kindergarten students tested. In FY13-14, 450 kindergarten students will be tested. In FY14-15, 900 kindergarten students will be tested. DOE has not estimated the number of kindergarten students that will need to be tested in FY15-16; however, the number of students is estimated to exceed 900.
- The cost per test is estimated by DOE to be \$25.
- In FY12-13, the increase in state expenditures for testing will be \$3,750 (\$25 x 150).

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- In FY13-14, the increase in state expenditures for testing will be \$11,250 (\$25 x 450).
- In FY14-15, the increase in state expenditures for testing will be \$22,500 (\$25 x 900).
- In FY15-16 and in all other fiscal year that the program exists, the increase in state expenditures will exceed \$22,500 since it is assumed that the number of students that need to be tested will be greater than in FY14-15.
- It is unknown if the program will be expanded or continued after the end of the pilot program in FY15-16.
- Any increase in state expenditures for OREA to study the pilot program and make a report to DOE and the Education Committees of the General Assembly will be not significant. No increase in personnel or a decrease in other budget items.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lucian D. Geise". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lucian" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Geise".

Lucian D. Geise, Executive Director

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